

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 /032 W

----- 124316

R 241635Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2262

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, DA

SUBJECT: NIELSEN VISIT TO US

REF: COPENHAGEN 0275

SUMMARY: LO PRESIDENT THOMAS NIELSEN'S RECENT VISIT TO AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING CALLED VERY SUCCESSFUL. NIELSEN WAS PLEASED WITH PRIVATE MEETING WITH MEANY AND PROMISE OF INCREASED COOPERATION ON A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MATTERS IS CITED AS EVIDENCE OF VISIT'S SUCCESS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION FEB. 20, WITH LO INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY KJELD AAKJAER, EMBASSY LABOR ATTACHE WAS TOLD THAT NIELSEN'S TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES HAD BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. AAKJAER SAID THAT TRIP COULD BE CHARACTERIZED AS "THE START OF A DIALOGUE" AND THAT AFL-CIO'S ERNIE LEE HAD INDICATED THAT NIELSEN WOULD BE INVITED AGAIN "SOON".

2. NIELSEN WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH HIS MEETING WITH AFL-CIO PRESIDNET MEANY AND AAKJAER CITED PROMISED CLOSER COOPERATION ON ILO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL MATTERS,
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INCLUDING A "VISIBLE" SOLUTION TO ORIT PROBLEM, AS TANGIBLE

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS OF VISIT.

3. ON FEBRUARY 23, ANOTHER LO INTERNATIONAL STAFF AIDE, JOHN SVENNINGSSEN, CONTRASTED RECENT VISIT OF NIELSEN TO AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING WITH A SIMILAR VISIT IN 1971. AT THAT TIME, ACCORDING TO SVENNINGSSEN, NIELSEN RETURNED TO DENMARK DISAPPOINTED THAT HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO DISCUSS SUBJECTS OF IMPORTANCE TO HIM WITH MEANY.

4. COMMENT: MORE DETAILS ON DANISH SIDE'S INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS OF THIS BILATERAL TRADE UNION CONTACT WILL BE FORTHCOMING WHEN DANES INVOLVED RECOVER FROM INFLUENZA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, VISITS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COPENH00610
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760071-0294
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760221/aaaaarll.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COPENHAGEN 275
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <06 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIELSEN VISIT TO US
TAGS: ELAB, OTRA, DA, US, AFL-CIO, ILO, (MEANY, GEORGE), (NIELSEN, THOMAS), (AAKJAER, KJELD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006